

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Expressly reserving all right to future prosecution via a continuation application to be filed during the pendency hereof, please cancel Claims 2, 8-9, 15-18, and 20-21, without prejudice, and replace pending Claims 1, 3-7, 10-14 and 19 with amended Claims 1, 3-7, 10-14 and 19 as follows:

1. (Presently Amended) A thigh-slimming device for use with pair of pants, said thigh-slimming device comprising:

a generally U-shaped support member,

wherein said generally U-shaped support member is carried by the pair of pants proximate to crotch and upper, inner-leg region thereof, wherein said generally U-shaped support member comprises means for removable attachment to the pair of pants, and wherein said removable attachment to the pair of pants is hook-and-loop fastener.

2. (Cancelled) A shape-enhancing garment comprising:

legwear having an inner-leg region; and

a shape-enhancing insert carried proximate to said inner-leg region of said legwear,

wherein said shape-enhancing insert generally restrains at least a portion of the inner-thigh of the wearer of said shape-

enhancing garment.

3. (Presently Amended) The thigh-slimming device for use with a pair of pants ~~shape-enhancing garment~~ of Claim 2 1, wherein said ~~shape-enhancing insert~~ generally U-shaped support member is substantially concealed from view.

4. (Presently Amended) The thigh-slimming device for use with a pair of pants ~~shape-enhancing garment~~ of Claim 2 1, wherein said ~~legwear is~~ pants are a pair of trousers.

5. (Presently Amended) The thigh-slimming device for use with a pair of pants ~~shape-enhancing garment~~ of Claim 21, wherein said ~~legwear is~~ pants are a pair of jeans.

6. (Presently Amended) The thigh-slimming device for use with a pair of pants ~~shape-enhancing garment~~ of Claim 21, wherein said ~~legwear~~ pants at least partially extends past the inner-thigh region of the wearer.

7. (Presently Amended) The thigh-slimming device for use with a pair of pants ~~shape-enhancing garment~~ of Claim 2 1, wherein said ~~shape-enhancing insert~~ generally U-shaped support member is plastic.

8. (Cancelled) The shape-enhancing garment of Claim 2, wherein said inner-leg region of said shape-enhancing insert is proximate to the crotch and inner-thigh regions of the wearer of said shape-enhancing garment.

9. (Cancelled) The shape-enhancing garment of Claim 2, wherein said shape-enhancing insert is generally U-shaped.

10. (Presently Amended) The thigh-slimming device for use with a pair of pants ~~shape-enhancing garment~~ of Claim 9 1, wherein said ~~shape-enhancing insert~~ generally U-shaped support member comprises a first generally elongated arm, a second generally elongated arm, and a base, and wherein said first generally elongated arm and said second generally elongated arm extend from said base.

11. (Presently Amended) The thigh-slimming device for use with a pair of pants ~~shape-enhancing garment~~ of Claim 2 1, wherein said ~~shape-enhancing insert~~ generally U-shaped support member is defined by a frame.

12. (Presently Amended) The thigh-slimming device for use with a pair of pants ~~shape-enhancing garment~~ of Claim 11, wherein said frame is formed from wire.

13. (Presently Amended) The thigh-slimming device for use with a pair of pants ~~shape-enhancing garment~~ of Claim 12, wherein said wire carries a coating.

14. (Presently Amended) The thigh-slimming device for use with a pair of pants ~~shape-enhancing garment~~ of Claim 11, wherein said frame carries fabric.

15. (Cancelled) The shape-enhancing garment of Claim 14, wherein said fabric is affixed to said inner-leg region of said legwear.

16. (Cancelled) The shape-enhancing garment of Claim 2, wherein said shape-enhancing insert is carried between a liner and a material of said legwear.

17. (Cancelled) The thigh-slimming device of Claim 1, wherein said generally U-shaped support member comprises means for removable attachment to the pair of pants.

18. (Cancelled) The thigh-slimming device of Claim 17, wherein said means for removable attachment to the pair of pants is hook-and-loop fastener.

19. (Presently Amended) A ~~The thigh-slimming device of Claim~~

17, for use with pair of pants, said thigh-slimming device comprising:

a generally U-shaped support member,  
wherein said generally U-shaped support member is carried by  
the pair of pants proximate to crotch and upper, inner-leg  
region thereof, wherein said generally U-shaped support member  
comprises means for removable attachment to the pair of pants,  
and wherein said means for removable attachment to the pair of  
pants is at least one snap.

20. (Cancelled) A method of maximizing the space between the inner-thighs of an individual via a shape-enhancing garment, said method comprising the steps of:

a. obtaining a garment having a functional inner-thigh support member provided therewith;

b. putting on said shape-enhancing garment; and

c. allowing said functional inner-thigh support member of said shape-enhancing garment to manipulate the dimensions of at least a portion of the inner-thighs of the individual via at least minimally restrictive pressure.

21. (Cancelled) The method of Claim 20, further comprising the step of:

d. removing said shape-enhancing garment, wherein said functional inner-thigh support member remains substantially

concealed within the construct of said shape-enhancing garment.